Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote read. See page 736 of the Legislative Journal.) 15 ayes, 19 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The bill fails to advance. Do you have have anything for the record, Mr. Clerk? The call is raised.

CLERK: Yes,   Mr. President, I do.   Your Committee on Transportation whose Chair is Senator Lamb reports LB 101   to General File with amendments attached. Signed by Senator Lamb as Chair. (See page 737 of the Legislative Journal.)

I have notice of hearing from the Natural Resources Committee, signed by Senator Schmit as Chair.   That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Move on to LB 502.

CLERK: Mr. President, 502 was a bill introduced by Senator Elmer.   (Read title.)   The bill was introduced on January 18, referred to Natural Resources, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Elmer, please.   Just a moment, Senator Elmer.   (Gavel.)   Shall we hold it down so we can hear the speakers, please. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, LB 502 is a bill brought forth by the irrigation districts.   Originally, when the Nebraska Uniform Budget Act was passed it was implied that public power districts and irrigation districts were exempt from the act, since they levy no direct tax dollars. In a court case, courts ruled that public power districts were subject to submit the budgets to the state auditor and from that the auditor has implied that the irrigation districts should also be a part of the act. Now, irrigation districts are much like a small business.   They have 10 to 20 employees. They levy use fees on the people that use the services that they offer and irrigate their districts. If they were subject to this act, it would require that they go to much more legal lengths with auditors and accountants, add to their costs to submit their budgets to the state auditor.   The auditor requires that this budget be submitted by August 25th of each year. And, of course, irrigation districts being very seasonal in their